

Cohasset Mariner

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As the Mariner goes to press Tuesday night, all news and advertising copy must be received by Monday at 5 p.m. Classified advertising must be received by Monday at noon. Readers are invited to submit personal items, accounts of social functions, meetings, weddings and engagements. Photographs (black and white glossy) are also welcome.

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Sue Dacrymple serves up in a tennis match against Middleboro.

Girls Sports Just As Important

To the Editor:

As a CHS student, I enjoy reading your newspaper because of its extensive local coverage. I think your photographs of athletic events are outstanding.

I am, however, dissatisfied with your coverage and subsequent articles on girls' athletic events. Case in point is this week's treatment of spring sports. You had an inside headline and a quarter-of-a-page article about the baseball team's first victory.

On the same page, you

Letters

devoted only one paragraph to the softball team which is tied for first place in the league. I think girls' sports are just as important as boys' sports and should receive the same attention, especially when the girls' softball team is doing so very well.

Heidi Brown
Norfolk Road

[Good point. Ed.]

One Town's Police Car A Dilemma To Others

By Bucky Yardume

Here are pertinent arguments on both sides of a current Norwell Police Department car issue evolving again from inflation which have overtones noteworthy for Cohasset or any area towns.

From where police sit, savings realized from going to smaller cars or even smaller engines will be lost, possibly even exceeded by increased maintenance expenses.

While it's gone unsaid, they probably also feel pursuit of fugitives in fast cars in anything but 'souper' cruisers would be like trying to catch a Formula 1 bomb with a two-wheeled tricycle.

From the viewpoint of town administrators, however, both the escalated cost of purchasing new cars and price of gas for thirsty monster cars — there's that spectre again — must be taken into consideration.

Commentary

And they point justifiably to other communities which have gone to smaller police cars. Some even have gone to compact but tough European gas misers.

Norwell, like any small community, can't take advantage of saving money on buying the vehicles in quantity and is limited to only one or two bidders because it buys only one or at most two cars at a time.

The state has a Collective Purchasing Program which allows political subdivisions to make purchases together to reduce overall costs and save taxpayer bucks. But police cars aren't among the categories recently listed by MAPC (Metropolitan Area Planning

Council). Maybe they'll get around to it yet.

In the meantime, it might come to the same thing if communities helped themselves by taking the regional approach in buying cruisers to benefit from a better deal.

The MDP did just that recently in qualifying along with Scituate, Cohasset, Hingham and Hull for a Federal grant for a unified police communication system.

Of course, with police cars, it isn't quite so simple to go regional.

Appropriations depend on Town Meeting vote, and Town Meetings in communities don't coincide.

Since, however, turnover in cruisers is a pretty routine procedure it would seem neighbor communities could work out something viable.

T.M. voters should be agreeable. After all, it's in their money.

Around Town Hall

INTERVIEWS HELD

Last week Selectmen interviewed Paul Rooney, Robert Jackson and Robert Williams for the position of patrolman with the Police Department.

Rooney, highest scorer on a Civil Service test, requested his interview be conducted in executive session. He is a patrolman in Yarmouth and has State Police training and a B.S. degree in sociology.

Jackson lives on Ash Street and received an 87 on the exam. He will graduate this spring from Northeastern University with a bachelor's degree in law enforcement. He already holds a B.A. in political science and has worked toward a master's degree in law enforcement. Jackson said he has completed EMT and police pistol courses. He works at Osco Drug in Dorchester.

The third candidate for the post, Robert Williams of North Main Street, is part-time director of an alcoholism program in Boston. Williams

received an 86 on the test. He plans to finish work on a doctorate in humanistic behavior studies at Boston University. Williams has been an intermittent officer in Cohasset.

VAULTS OKAYED

State Public Records Analyst Michael Haire told Selectmen last week that upgrading the four existing vaults in Town Hall with the required specifications for safes and vaults would be acceptable.

"Such a course of action would be acceptable to this office provided that four vaults afforded adequate storage space for the town's records," Haire said.

Upgrading the existing vaults may be a temporary expedient, he explained, and urged careful consideration of the future generation of records by the town and the space necessary for their storage.

Furthermore, Haire noted that four-hour fire ratings for

vault doors are quoted in the pamphlet proposing renovation for the Town Hall.

"We should like to point out that any enclosure which is upgraded must conform to the six-hour rating required. Should upgrading these vaults to six-hour ratings prove infeasible, then our initial requirement of a six-hour central repository must be fulfilled.

Haire noted that at least three doors must remain open during business hours for access and that this would curb the effectiveness of environmental control for records.

"For these reasons," he concluded, "in terms of cost-effectiveness, this office is of the opinion that a central vault facility constructed in accordance with the requirements would provide optimum in security and environment for the long-term storage of records."



Joe Klier of Old Coach Road rests on bench near Duck Pond after Saturday morning bike ride.